

RONALD L. NOVAK, Chief



OCT 24 9 50 PM '88

OFFICE OF SOLID
AND HAZARDOUS
WASTE MGMT

CITY OF HAMMOND, INDIANA 46320

5925 CALUMET AVENUE

PHONE (219) 853-6306

October 20, 1988

EPA Region 5 Records Ctr.



326691

Mr. Harry E. Atkinson
CERCLIS
Office of Solid & Hazardous Waste Management
Indiana Department of Environmental Management
105 South Meridian Street
Indianapolis, Indiana 46206-6015

RE: R & R Industrial Park
1745 - 165th Street
Hammond, Indiana

Dear Mr. Atkinson:

Please find enclosed several pieces of information on the above referenced site which I feel needs to be evaluated to determine if hazardous material are present. The site contains an estimated 1,000 drums and numerous large piles of shot blasting material. Aerial photographs of the site taken in 1979 shows an apparent dump area. The recent fire at the site revealed drums present with the markings of hydrofluoric acid, chlororthene and some type of solidified paint-like material. Due to the size of the site as well as the amount of materials present I am requesting an investigation by I.D.E.M. to determine if this location poses any environmental dangers.

If I can be of any service during the investigation please feel free to call upon me.

Sincerely,

Ronald L. Novak, Chief
Hammond Air Pollution Control

RLN:ms

Enclosures (3)

RUN NO. 2450

(PLEASE PRINT)

CO. NO. 5001

ALARM
REPORTED BY EMPLOYEE of RR IND PARK

TOTAL TIME 1 HR 9

DELAY NONE

CO. RUN NO. 644

ADDRESS _____

OPERATORS 1. 45

TIME OUT 14:23

TIME ARRIVED 14:29

CODE _____

2. 66

TIME

IN 15:32

TX _____

RADIO ☒

PERSONAL _____

OTHER _____

FIRE

DATE 10/14 1988 ADDRESS _____

OWNER

OF PROPERTY ROBERT RANKIN

ADDRESS SAME

TEL _____

OCCUPANT VARIOUS

ADDRESS _____

INCIDENT:

FIRE ☒ RESCUE _____

FALSE

ALARM _____

H A Z

M A T 170

OTHER _____

BLDG.

TYPE _____

NUMBER OF

FLOORS _____

AREA OF

ORIGIN: FLOOR _____

ROOM _____

POINT

WITHIN ROOM _____

VEHICLE:

YEAR _____

MAKE _____

LICENSE

NUMBER _____

CAUSE OF

IGNITION UNK

COLOR OF

SMOKE GREY

COLOR OF

FLAME ORANGE

DOORS:

LOCKED _____

UN-

LOCKED _____

WINDOWS: LOCKED _____

OPEN _____

UNLOCKED _____

CLOSED _____

ESTIMATE OF

DAMAGE NONE

EXPOSURE DAMAGE NONE

INJURIES:

HOSPITALIZED

NAME NONE

ADDRESS _____

YES _____

NO _____

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

YES _____

NO _____

FIRE

DEATHS: NAME NONE

ADDRESS _____

AGE: _____

SEX: _____

LOCATION

OF HYDRANT _____

RANKING

OFFICER KUJAWA

ENGINEER _____

PIPEMEN _____

ABSENT

FROM QUARTERS STOMING

ASS'T.

CHIEF ON DUTY _____

RESPONDED: YES _____

NO _____

BATTALION

CHIEF ON DUTY (N) HOYDA

RESPONDED: YES _____

NO _____

(S) KUTKOSKI

RESPONDED: YES ☒

NO _____

MISCELLANEOUS INFORMATION ENG. 4 WHILE ON A GRASS FIRE FOUND NUMEROUS
BARRELS MOST EMPTY SOME FULL AT THIS LOCATION. MAY BE UPWARDS
OF A THOUSAND OR MORE BARRELS. R. NOVAK WAS CALLED HE IS
GOING TO HAVE I.D.E.M. INVESTIGATE. SOME DRUMS HAD THE NA
H
CHLOROTHENE AND HYDROFLUORIC ACID MARKED ON THEM.

INSPECTION NEEDED: INSPECTOR WAS AT THE SCENE.

SKETCH ANY WORKING STRUCTURAL FIRE - NORTH AT TOP OF SKETCH.

NORTH

WEST

SERVICE CUT: () GAS () ELECTRIC

SOUTH

POLICE PROTECTION: YES _____ NO ☒

NO. OF LINES USED: 1½" _____ 2½" _____ 3" _____

NO. OF TURRETS USED _____ NO. OF LADDER PIPES USED _____ PUMP TIME _____

NO. OF SALVAGE COVERS SPREAD _____ NO. OF PORTABLE EXTINGUISHERS USED _____

BOOSTER _____ SMOKE EJECTOR _____ GENERATOR _____

LADDERS USED _____ GAS MASKS _____ TANKS _____

EQUIPMENT LEFT AT SCENE NONE

EQUIPMENT LOST NONE

REPORTING OFFICER Kufawa RANK HMO SHIFT 3

Revised January 1988

Sunday, October 16, 1988

Content of drums will be tested

HAMMOND — The contents of 1,000 abandoned drums found in a field here will be analyzed to see if they contain dangerous chemicals, authorities said Saturday.

The drums were found in a field behind the R&R Industrial Park on 165th Street by city firefighters who responded to a trash blaze Friday afternoon.

Most of the drums were empty and scattered over a two-acre dump site near the Norfolk & Western Railroad tracks.

The site, formerly owned by Pullman Standard Co., was bought several years ago by Robert Rankin, owner of the industrial park.

The barrels were found in a fenced-off area at the far north end of the project, away from the industries.

Ron Novak, coordinator of Hammond's Hazardous Materials Response Team, said Saturday that he thought Pullman dumped the drums when workers there made Amtrak's Superliner cars.

He said the company also refurbished flatbed railroad cars.

Novak said his team did not take samples of materials in the drums but notified the Indiana Department of Environmental Management, which he said has jurisdiction.

Novak did recommend that two materials be sampled and analyzed.

One appeared to be shot-blasting grit used to clean metal surfaces. The other looked like foundry sand, Novak said.

"Most of the drums were empty. Many of them were rotted out.

"We were not about to tamper with any of it," Novak said.

He said the fire ignited some railroad ties on the property.

"From our standpoint that's a major concern," he said, because the ties contain creosote, a cancer-causing material that is released into the air when set on fire.

R:R Industrial Park

S.D.
10/17/88

#1745 165th St. 15/20
Acre.

Hammond, In.

Ron Novak
City of Hammond

R:R Industrial Inc. → owner

[REDACTED]
(Pullman Standard Property)

E. Chicago, In.
O: 932-8383
932-8384